VZCZCXRO6609 PP RUEHMA RUEHPA DE RUEHUJA #2432 3501551 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 151551Z DEC 08 FM AMEMBASSY ABUJA TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4704 INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 1571 RUEHYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 0557 RUEHOS/AMCONSUL LAGOS 0454 RHMFISS/HQ USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHDC RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE RUZEJAA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK

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SIPDIS

DEPT FOR AF/W, INR/AA, IO/RHS - A. OSTERMEIER, DRL/MLGA - 1C. SIBILLA

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SUBJECT: NIGERIA: UN UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW PREPARATIONS

REF: A. STATE 130829 ¶B. ABUJA 2200

 $\underline{\P}1.$ (U) In anticipation of action request (ref A), Post had already contacted both GON officials and key local NGOs and reported on their efforts to prepare for the UN Universal Periodic Review (UPR) scheduled for February 2009 (ref B). Both the GON and civil society have been proactively engaged in the process for several months. On November 3, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted an interactive session which allowed state officials, civil society, and members of the general public to share their concerns on human rights issues in Nigeria. NGO contacts participated in the development of a report for submission to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) at an August 15 conference sponsored by the National Human Rights Commission in Nigeria. Both the GON and civil society seemed knowledgeable about the process and had obtained supplemental information from the OHCHR website on their own. We will continue to monitor and report on Nigerian UPR preparations. Sanders